IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the paragraphs on page 37 starting at line 13 as indicated below:

For operations ~~or procedures~~ <u>for procedure</u> 320, there is a hash operation associated with each data word rather than a verification associated with the reading of each data word. At the end of the programming of the data stream, there is a single verification step involving the comparison of hash values.

As shown in Figure 10, the program flow ~~or procedures~~ <u>for procedure</u> 320 starts at process block 322. At process block 322, flash memory array 24 enters the special programming mode. Thus flash memory array 24 enters the special programming mode state 152 by the host processor sending in a special programming command to flash memory <u>device</u> 24.

Please amend the paragraphs on page 39 starting at line 12 as indicated below:

The process flow <u>for procedure</u> 320 continues for the next series of data words within the data stream. Each data word is programmed into flash memory array 20. Flash memory array 24 performs a dynamic hashing with respect to each programmed data word. The hashing algorithm uses the new programmed data word and the result of the previous hashing operation to create a new hash value, and the result is stored in array 20. The process flow <u>for procedure</u> 320 continues to process block 350, at which the last word in the stream is programmed into array 20 by the flash memory 24. At process block 352, the write state machine and special programming mode circuitry 32 cause the hash algorithm to perform a hash operation with respect to the last data word programmed by the flash memory and the previous output of the hashing algorithm. The resulting hash value is stored in array 20.

On page 40, please amend the second paragraph as indicated below:

Once the hashing technique or procedure 320 is completed, host processor 22 would cause the flash memory 24 to exit the special programming mode.

On page 41, please amend the second and the last paragraphs as indicated:

For one embodiment of the invention, if an error condition is indicated at process block 358, then the hashing process flow for procedure 320 is repeated for all the data words of the data stream.

For an alternative embodiment of the invention, process flow for procedure 320 could include the hashing of status information stored within flash memory 24 in addition to the hashing of the programmed data words dynamically. The status information could include the status value stored in status register 83 as well as other status information. Host processor 22 would store in its memory 34 an expected hash value that would result from the hashing of the data stream words and expected status information from flash memory 24. The hashing of status information in addition to data words would allow the host processor 22 to check for correct operation by flash memory 24 in addition to the correct programming of the data stream. For example, if a blocking error occurred, the alternative hashing procedure might capture that error. If status information and data words are hashed, the write state machine 28 and the special programming mode circuitry 32 would oversee the running of the hash algorithm.